

AUSTRIA ON VERGE OF SEPARATE PEACE, RUMORS INSIST

SENTIMENT GROWS FOR NATION-WIDE 'WAR PROHIBITION'

President Declared Ready to Abide By Recommendations of Herbert C. Hoover of National Food Commission

Nation-wide prohibition may be nearer than Hawaii realizes. The Star-Bulletin's Washington correspondent in the letter below indicates that Herbert C. Hoover, head of the national food commission, should find that grain now used for making liquors is needed for food, the president would stand a proclamation to make Hoover's stand effective. Since the letter was written, telegraphic despatches brought the news that Hoover has appeared before the agriculture committee of the senate and urged prohibition.

By C. S. ALBERT

(Special Star-Bulletin Correspondence.)
WASHINGTON, D. C., April 28.—

Nation-wide prohibition through legislation by congress has received a setback. A caucus of house Democrats, held for the purpose of mapping out a program for the extraordinary session, decided that this subject should not be taken up. In doing so there was a reversal of action. The proposal to make nation-wide prohibition a feature of the present session was adopted. Thereupon the Tammany representatives from Greater New York, with some from the New England states, picked up their hats and marched out of the caucus. The leaders realized that this family row could not proceed far without disastrous results. Peace-makers were sent forth and the dissenters brought back into the fold. Then a resolution deferring legislation was adopted by a vote of 57 to 60. This is supposed to settle the question until next winter when the regular session of congress convenes.

Meantime, the matter of nation-wide prohibition broke out in a new form. The placing of a ban upon the making of spirituous and malt beverages by a presidential proclamation was taken up. This was not designed for the purpose of preventing men from drinking but to obviate the use of wheat, rye and barley for manufacturing liquors. The idea was to save the grain for food purposes. The subject was given serious and prompt consideration by the president and his cabinet. They determined to do nothing at present. Later, it was agreed that the problem should be laid before Herbert C. Hoover, who has taken charge of food conservation for the government. There is a strong impression that he will favor a limitation of grain quantities used for making whiskey and beer. His action on the question is awaited with joyful anticipation by one faction of the people and gloomy foreboding by the other faction.

If Mr. Hoover should find it necessary to save the enormous quantity of grain now utilized in making liquors for food purposes the president doubtless will issue a proclamation making his conclusion effective. It is held that because a state of war exists the president has full authority to declare partial or absolute nation-wide prohibition for its duration or any fixed period. This is disputed by some statesmen, but a majority hold that he has the power.

FOOD COMMISSION HOLDS MEETING

Telephone 3151. Office hours, 8:30 a. m. to 4:30 p. m.

These are the phone number and hours of the Territorial Food Commission, whose offices are located above Castle & Cooke's, at Fort and Merchant streets.

A telephone was installed this morning by the Mutual, and was used several times today. It is expected that it will be a busy instrument after the commission gets down to an active program of daily work which it is now mapping out.

Dr. Arthur L. Dean, president of the College of Hawaii, executive officer of the commission, said at noon that several Honoluluans called at the office this morning. One man said he thought the price of bread had risen out of all proportion to the increase in flour prices, and that the commission might do well to investigate the situation.

From 9:30 to 10:15 this morning the commission held another meeting, with all six commissioners present, in the Hawaiian Sugar Planters' Association office, Judd building. A meeting was held Thursday afternoon as well. Furniture and equipment is being installed today in the commission's new office and will be in steady use after the first of next week, Dr. Dean says.

Stocks Show Steady Decline

NEW YORK STOCK MARKET TODAY

	Today	Yesterday
Alaska Gold	6 1/2	6 1/4
American Smelter	97 1/2	98
American Sugar Rfg.	111	109 1/2
American Tel. & Tel.	117	120 1/2
Anaconda Copper	77 1/2	77 1/2
Atchafalpa	53 1/2	53
Baldwin Loco.	53 1/2	53
Baltimore & Ohio	89 1/2	89 1/2
Bethlehem Steel	120 1/2	120 1/2
Calif. Petroleum	18	18 1/2
Canadian Pacific	159	160 1/2
C. M. & St. P. (St. Paul)	72 1/2	74 1/2
Colo. Fuel & Iron	46 1/2	46 1/2
Cruicible Steel	62 1/2	63
Erie Common	23 1/2	23 1/2
General Electric	153	155
General Motors, New	105	106 1/2
Great Northern Pfd.	105	106 1/2
Inter. Harv., N. J.	44 1/2	44 1/2
Kennecott Copper	44 1/2	44 1/2
Lehigh R. R.	59	59 1/2
New York Central	87 1/2	88
Pennsylvania	51 1/2	52
Ray Consol.	29	29
Reading Common	86 1/2	87 1/2
Southern Pacific	90 1/2	90 1/2
Studebaker	87	88 1/2
Texaco Oil	203 1/2	208 1/2
Union Pacific	132 1/2	132 1/2
U. S. Steel	115 1/2	116
Utah	112 1/2	113 1/2
Western Union	90 1/2	91 1/2
Westinghouse	47 1/2	46 1/2
May Wheat	3.18	3.15

*Bid. *Ex-dividend. †Unquoted.

Bethlehem Steel—a represents Class A and B Class B stock.

Sugar, 6.21cts

This morning H. E. P. A. received a correction to the cable quotation on 64 deg. test sugar, and which was published in the Star-Bulletin. The price should have been 6.147 cents and not 6.27 cents as reported.

Today's cable tells of an increase in price to 6.21.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 11.—Sugar, 50 cent test 6.21 cents. Previous quotation, 6.147 cents.

JAPANESE LEAD IN FAR EASTERN GAMES IN TOKIO

(Special Cable to Nippon Jiji)

TOKIO, Japan, May 11.—Japanese athletes lead in the Far Eastern games at the conclusion of the third day of the Olympic events. Counting the points made up to last night the standing is, Japan 50, Philippines 40, Chinese 15.

In yesterday's events Waseda university defeated the Philippine baseball team by a score of 2 to 0. Salto, a Japanese, took first honors in the javelin throw.

ARMY ASKS BIDS ON WATER SYSTEM

Bids for more army construction work of the big sort—the extension of the Waianae water system and the furnishing of new pumps for Fort Shafter—will be opened next month at the office of the constructing quartermaster, Honolulu, according to announcement today.

This job according to estimate, will total \$70,000 and is in line with the big construction jobs planned by the army on Oahu, several of which have been announced in the Star-Bulletin within the last few weeks. The bids will be opened on June 12.

Most of the work contemplated under the specifications that have been drawn will be located at Schofield reservation, in the foothills of the Waianae mountains, although there will be a transmission line extending from the cantonments to the north and south pumping stations. A new eight-inch line is to be placed in the present pipe, to connect with the present six-inch line near the laundry at Custer.

The old pumps, motors and starting apparatus now in place at Fort Shafter pumping station are to be removed and sent to Schofield, where new pumps will be placed at Shafter and at the Schofield "booster" station.

SENATE NAVAL COMMITTEE BOOSTS PAY OF SAILORS

(Associated Press by U. S. Naval Wireless.)
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 11.—

The senate naval committee yesterday formally approved of the house bill, providing for an increase in the personnel of the enlisted force of the navy to 150,000 men and of the marine corps to 30,000. It also inserted an amendment providing that the pay of the men in both branches shall not be less than \$25 a month.

LANGUAGE LEADS TO ARREST OF MAN BY PROVOST GUARD

Suspect Alleged to Have Said He Had Material to Blow Up Some Liners

Possible traces of a treacherous plot with all the earmarks of tragedy and intrigue were uncovered in Honolulu last night and are being followed to their source today. The hints may be nothing but idle chatter but federal authorities are not going on this supposition until they are sure suspicions are unfounded.

John Gonon, alias Gones, alias Gonas, was locked up at the city jail last night by the provost guard when it was reported he had been overheard making some threatening remarks about blowing up some liners.

It is alleged that he said he had enough material to blow up some of the liners of something to that effect. Just what was meant by the remark is not known and Capt. McDuffie of the detectives is assisting military authorities in a close investigation today.

Gonas was in a chop house on River street near Maunakea street about 10 o'clock last night when a negro army sergeant is said to have overheard the foregoing remarks to a private. The sergeant immediately reported to Cpl. Elinor of Co. C, 2d Inf., in charge of the provost guard, who promptly placed Gonas under arrest and turned him over to the police.

This morning Capt. McDuffie searched Gonas' room at the Majestic hotel but it is understood he found no incriminating evidence. From letters found there it is believed the man is a Pole.

Up to noon today the Gonas case had not been turned over to the federal officials, United States Attorney Huber said. Haber is of the opinion that the army authorities may make an investigation before requesting the civilian authorities to act.

At the Majestic hotel, where Gonas has been stopping, it was reported that he is in the employ of the Standard Oil Co., formerly as a foreman and now as a general helper. Up to the time of his arrest he had lived at the Majestic for about three months.

The manager of the Majestic says that, after leaving the hotel a year ago, he went to the mainland, adding that the company he worked for sent him from place to place.

Gonas is said to have been quiet and orderly when around the hotel. It was not learned definitely today whether Gonas was still an employee of the Standard Oil Co. or not. One report is that he was intoxicated last night and did not know what he was talking about.

ROENTZ HEARING THIS AFTERNOON

George Roentz, former clerk to Captain George R. Clark, commandant of the Pearl Harbor naval station, who is now being held by federal authorities on a charge of espionage, has retained Attorney E. C. Peters as his counsel, he informs the Star-Bulletin today.

Roentz expected to be released from custody some time today, his bond already having been fixed at \$15,000 by U. S. Commissioner George S. Curry. Asked who his bondsmen would be, Roentz mentioned the names of three prominent Honolulu men.

A preliminary hearing of the Roentz case, was to be held before Commissioner Curry at 2 o'clock this afternoon.

TWENTY-FIFTH TO GET 560 RECRUITS

Five hundred and sixty recruits for the 25th Infantry, Schofield Barracks, will arrive on the next transport from the mainland to swell the local regiment to full war strength.

This group, by far the largest that has come to any local regiment in many months, is approximately half of the entire lot of recruits to arrive on the same boat. It was stated today at army headquarters that the exact total will be 1019 men.

JAPANESE WILL HONOR REMAINS OF AMBASSADOR

Flags Will Fly at Half Mast; Gifts Presented Crew; Consul Moroi to Entertain

Consul R. Moroi will entertain for Captain Niro and officers of the visiting Japanese cruiser at a banquet on Monday evening, May 14, at the Japanese consulate on Nuuanu street. Japanese of Honolulu are making arrangements to greet the officers and members of the crew of the Japanese cruiser bearing the remains of the late Ambassador Guthrie. A delegation of local Japanese will bring pineapples, bananas and other Hawaiian fruits to the members of the crew upon arrival. Postcards showing the beauty spots of Hawaii will also be given to every member of the crew.

A beautiful wreath will be presented by the local Japanese to be placed on the coffin of the late ambassador to Japan. The Japanese consulate has asked all owners of sampans to fly both the American and Japanese flags at half-mast during the stay of the cruiser in port. Hotels, stores and other places of business will fly the two flags at half-mast.

LOCAL BIDDERS GET ARMY JOBS

Lord-Young Co. is Awarded Building and Spalding Co. to Make Roads

Announcement was made today by Maj. Charles G. Mettler, Hawaiian Ordnance officer, that the contract for the construction of 12 big buildings of the Hawaiian Ordnance depot has been given to the Lord-Young Engineering Company. The bid of this firm was \$129,215, all deductions considered.

To the Spalding Construction Company, which has the contract for constructing roads and sidewalks, the bid for roads being \$58,446, and for sidewalks, \$775. Both successful bidders are Honolulu firms.

Water and sewer bids were rejected on account of being in excess of the money appropriated for the work. This will be done by the government on the day labor plan to the extent for which money is available.

Bids were opened for the work several days ago, there being one mainland firm among the competitors. The various offers were forwarded to Washington for approval, upon receipt of which the announcement of award was made today.

KEAWEKANE MAY PLEAD INSANITY

Keawi Keawekane, the 16-year-old Hawaiian boy charged with the brutal murder of little George and Kama Kama in upper Makiki valley a few months ago, will be placed on trial in Circuit Judge Ashford's court at 9 o'clock next Monday morning.

Attorney Lorin Andrews, representing the defendant, today intimated to the Star-Bulletin that it will be the contention of the defense that young Keawekane suffered from homicidal insanity during which period, he said, the victim is possessed with a desire to kill, and that, after the effects of the attack have worn off, the victim forgets all that has gone before.

"The disease of epilepsy prevails among the lower classes more than is generally known," says Andrews, "and it has proved very often that these attacks at times are substituted by attacks of homicidal insanity."

City Attorney A. M. Brown will prosecute.

LAND OFFICE IN FOOD CAMPAIGN

Bertram G. Rivenburgh, commissioner of public lands, is doing his bit officially to aid in the family gardening spirit by donating vacant land plots free to persons desirous of raising their own "home-grown."

Since the crusade for home gardening became popular in the territory a few weeks ago, the territory has donated from 10 to 12 acres for gardens, Rivenburgh said today.

This is in Honolulu alone, and in the tract of land at the upper end of Pensacola street known as Kalawae line. There is probably a total of 30 acres now being occupied by families in this manner, some of whom have been on the land for several years. Rivenburgh says that this is practically the only available land around Honolulu at present which the territory can thus use.

On the other islands there are larger tracts, many of them under lease as pastoral lands, which the commissioner thinks might be secured in part through arrangement with the present holders.

Noted Americans Named On Mission To Visit Russia



Above—Elihu Root, statesman and lawyer of international note, chairman of the new commission to Russia. Below—Maj. Gen. Hugh L. Scott, chief of staff of the United States army, also on the commission.

(Associated Press by Cable)
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 11.—

Formal announcement was made today of the personnel of the American commission to Russia, which is to leave soon for Petrograd. It consists of Ex-Senator Elihu Root of New York, chairman; Charles R. Crane of Chicago; John R. Mott, the noted religious and Y. M. C. A. worker; Cyrus McCormick, prominent harvester manufacturer and philanthropist; Samuel R. Berton, James Duncan, Charles Edward Russell, newspaperman and publicist; Maj. Gen. Hugh L. Scott, chief of staff, U. S. Army, and Rear-Admiral Glenwood of the Navy.

Maj. Gen. Bliss will succeed Gen. Scott temporarily as chief of staff and Brig. Gen. Kernan will be assistant to Bliss.

The published report that the United States has entered into an agreement with the Entente Allies not to negotiate a separate peace with any of the Central Powers was today given absolute denial by Secretary of State Lansing.

Austrian Steamers Purchased By U. S.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 11.—Seven Austrian steamers with a total displacement of 34,304 tons have been purchased by the shipping board for immediate use. These vessels were not damaged at the outbreak of the war, as were the German ships, and can be made ready for service within a short time. The price paid for them was slightly less than one million dollars apiece, the total sum being \$6,778,006. A. T. Herd and George A. Carden of New York, who had options and claims against the vessels turned their claims over to the government without asking profit for them.

The steamers are the Dora, 4036 tons, the Ida, 3096 tons, the Enry, 4171 tons, the Anna, 398 tons, the Clara, 3541 tons, the Teresa, 2331 tons and the Lucia, 4386 tons. All of the vessels save the Teresa and the Lucia are at New York. The Teresa is at New Orleans and the Lucia at Pensacola. It is expected that arrangements will be made for making the repairs necessary to the ships and fitting them out for service immediately.

Gifts of 30 motor ambulances for use with the military base hospitals organized in New York County Chapter of the American Red Cross.

MOMENTOUS POLITICAL EVENTS HANG IN AIR; WEST DEADLOCKED; ALLIES IN GREAT NEW "DRIVE"

Entire Macedonia Front From Monastir To Lake Doiran is Aflame—Entente Aggressors Everywhere

The Associated Press, in today's summary of events in Europe, says:

"There are renewed reports that Austria desires to break the shackles now binding her to Berlin. A commission of Austrians is now believed to be en route to Switzerland to negotiate separate peace with France.

"The tide of reform is sweeping all over Germany, and efforts of the emperor to placate the people conducting the peace propaganda abroad, as well as the signs of the internal situation, are alarming to the autocracy."

An earlier report from London said:

LONDON, England, May 11.—Despatches to the Exchange Telegraph from Amsterdam yesterday announced that that news gathering agency has learned on "good authority" that three prominent Austrian politicians are about to leave for Switzerland with peace proposals. It is hoped that they will be given safe conduct to visit Paris, where they are expected to discuss terms of a separate peace with Austria with members of the French cabinet.

Russian Government May Fall Before New Storm; Army Useless

While momentous political events are developing in Russia, Germany and Austria, the armies are virtually deadlocked, except on the Macedonian front, according to today's summary by the Associated Press, which says:

"The Allies have opened a great offensive on the entire Macedonian front from Monastir to Lake Doiran."

"The deadlock continues in France, where the western line is the scene of violent attacks and counter-attacks. Behind the lines, the Allies are massing men and guns for another drive."

"The news from Russia is gloomy. It is a question whether the provisional government can weather the storm. It is unlikely that the Russian army will be of any value for a long time."

PETROGRAD, Russia, May 11.—Yesterday, the anniversary of the opening of the first Russian Duma, was made notable by a speech by President Rodzianko, head of the provisional government, in which he repudiated talk of a separate peace with the Central Powers. He said: "Only the complete defeat of Prussian militarism can assure the happiness of the world."

(Associated Press by U. S. Naval Wireless)
NEW YORK, N. Y., May 11.—From the western front the center of interest veered yesterday to the front in Macedonia, where the Allies began a tremendous assault upon the lines held by the composite Bulgar-Turk-German armies. From Lake Ochrid to Lake Doiran the battle flared up suddenly and furiously, with the Allies the aggressors everywhere.

In the famous Cerna River bend the Russians, who have been holding the lines for months, attacked and drove the enemy out of their trench positions over a wide front, while southwest of Lake Doiran, on the other end of the long line, the British succeeded in wresting from the Bulgarians the first line of trenches over a two-mile front.

Northwest of Monastir there has been heavy artillery operation as well as more or less infantry activity.

Italians Sink Many 'Divers'

(Associated Press by U. S. Naval Wireless.)
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 11.—It is reported to the Italian embassy here that 13 Austrian submarines have been sunk this week by Italian patrol.

Norway Suffers From U-Boats

(Associated Press by U. S. Naval Wireless.)
LONDON, Eng., May 11.—The Norwegian steamers Tiger and Leikanger have been sunk by German submarines off Spain.

DURAZZO RAIDED BY BOLD ITALIANS

(Associated Press by U. S. Naval Wireless.)
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 11.—News comes to the Italian embassy that for the fourth time within a year Italian destroyers have penetrated the fortified port of Durazzo, on the Adriatic sea, sinking four transports loaded with provisions and ammunition. The destroyers escaped unscathed.

Private D. T. Sack, of Company F, Second New York Infantry, was killed while doing guard duty on the line of the Delaware & Hudson Railroad.

MOBS IN PEKING DEMANDING WAR

(Associated Press by U. S. Naval Wireless.)
PEKING, China, May 11.—After a riotous all-night secret session the Chinese house of representatives has not yet declared war on Germany.

The building was surrounded during the night and this morning by a mob demanding a war declaration and threatening violence if the troops are dispersed. Premier Tuan Chi Jui, who urged war, is accused of attempting to coerce the action of the house.

MURDER CHARGED TO YOUNG GIRL

(Associated Press by U. S. Naval Wireless.)
CHICAGO, Ill., May 11.—Little Doris Anderson, 13 years old, is held by the police on suspicion of having shot and killed Grace Hageman, also 13 years old, in a quarrel over a love affair with a boy.

ARTILLERY FIGHT ON LINE OF ARRAS

(Associated Press by U. S. Naval Wireless.)
BERLIN, Germany, May 11.—Artillery firing took place all day today on the entire Arras front. Eighteen British and French airplanes were downed today by the Germans on the western front.